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August 16, 1990

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Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kay M. Brooks'.

Kay M. Brooks
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SIGILLOLOGIA.
BEING SOME ACCOUNT
OF THE
GREAT OR BROAD SEAL
OF THE
CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.
A MONOGRAPH.



NON OMNIS MORIAR.
DEDICATED TO THE SACRED MEMORY OF
"The gallant cavaliers who died in vain,
For those who knew not to resign or reign."

BY IOANNES DIDYMUS ARCHÆOLOGOS.
(*Honi soit qui mal y pense!*)

PRICE 25 CENTS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
PUBLISHED BY KERVAND & TOWERS.
PRINTED BY POWELL & GINCK,
630, 632 F Street.
1873.

THE GREAT SEAL

OF THE

CONFEDERATE STATES.

In Harper's Monthly Magazine for February, 1869, there is an interesting paper entitled "The Executive Departments and Seals," in which occurs the following passage:

"In our day the extraordinary spectacle has been seen of the efforts of an oligarchy, small in numbers, but powerful in influence, to establish another nation within the bounds of the Republic—*imperium in imperio*—and to give to it the symbol of sovereignty in the form of a Great Seal. The youngest of us, old enough to reflect and reason, have seen that 'nation,' so-called, spring up from the late slave-labor States which formed the northern portion of the great golden circle of empire devised by conspirators. It was a Caliban in features; barbaric in its proclivities; awfully potential in mischievous works; protesting with fire, sword and torture against the civilization of the age; and yet impudently insisting upon its recognition as one of the family of legitimate and respectable sovereignties. Its titular initials were 'C. S. A.' Its fathers resolved that it, like the nation it was attempting to overthrow by internal convulsions, should have a Great Seal, and in 'Congress' resolved, in the spring of 1863, that it should bear 'a device representing an equestrian statue of Washington (after the statue which surmounts his monument in the capitol square at Richmond), surrounded with a wreath

May 11, 1956 v. S. O. No. 2 C. S. A.

composed of the principal products of the Confederacy, and having around its margin the words 'Confederate States of America, Feb. 22, 1862,' with the following motto: '*Deo Vindice*,' God, the protector, defender, deliverer, or ruler—indicative of the expected longevity of the 'nation' because of divine protection and sustenance. Alas! that 'nation' so notably 'conceived in sin and born in iniquity,' died of political and moral marasmus in its infancy, unhonored by any recognition of its existence excepting by a Latin ghost of sovereignty. It had repeated history* by a delay in providing itself with the usual symbol of nationality. That symbol—the Great Seal of the infant Confederacy—sent to it by its nurse, England, reached the appointed seat of the empire of the 'C. S. A.' just as its self-constituted guardians were flying from the wrath of God, whose protection they had impiously invoked. The ill-favored bantling died, and was left to decay, without real mourners, without burial, and without a monument, for no true man desired to perpetuate its memory. Antiquaries, in the future, will search in vain for any impression of an emblem of sovereignty of the 'C. S. A.' None was ever made. The broad seal of the Republic kindly covers the dishonored ashes of that child of sin."

Although we cannot but think the language of archæology should be more temperate than the foregoing, yet it is not the intention of the writer of this simple monograph to take any exceptions thereto. The *de mortuis nil nisi bonum*, is wholly out of fashion, at least in this land, both as to States and statesmen. In fact an amiable friend of the writer lately published a newspaper article in the endeavor to prove the generous, time-honored latin maxim to be a delusion and a snare, or, to speak after the American manner, a humbug and a fraud.

Ours be it, therefore, to show, with moderation of style,

*An allusion to the delay of the United States in procuring their broad seal.

that the paper from which we have quoted is in error when it says "antiquaries, in the future, will search in vain for any impression of an emblem of sovereignty of the 'C. S. A.' None was ever made."

At the third session of the first Congress* of the Confederate States of America, the necessary legislation was had for the establishing of a seal, as follows:

[No. 4.] *Joint resolution to establish a seal for the Confederate States.*

*Resolved, by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That the seal of the Confederate States shall consist of a device representing an equestrian portrait of Washington, (after the statue which surmounts his monument in the capitol square at Richmond,) surrounded with a wreath composed of the principal agricultural products of the Confederacy, (cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, wheat and rice,) and having around its margin the words: "The Confederate States of America, twenty-second February, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, with the following motto: "*Deo vindice*."*

APPROVED, April 30, 1863. [C. S. Statutes at Large.]

And thus we have a succinct and accurate description of that which symbolized the once formidable but ephemeral Confederacy.

Accordingly the Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of State of the Confederate States, in his dispatch of May 20, 1863, (No. 23) to the Hon. James M. Mason, Commissioner of the Confederate States near the government of Great Britain, expresses the will of Congress with regard to the proposed seal in the following very judicious and interesting manner:

*It must be borne in mind that the previous and original Congress was provisional; the permanent government of the Confederate States not having been established until February 22, 1862.

["No. 23.]

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

"RICHMOND, *May 20, 1863.*

"HON. JAMES M. MASON,
&c., &c., &c.,

"*London.*

"SIR:

* * * * *

"Congress has passed a law establishing a seal for the Confederate States. I have concluded to get the work executed in England, and request that you will do me the favor to supervise it. You will receive herewith a copy of the act of Congress describing the seal, and a photographic view of the statue of Washington. The photograph represents the horse as standing on the summit of an obelisk, but in the seal the base ought to be the earth, as the representation is to be of a horseman and not of a statue. The size desired for the seal is the circle on the back of the photograph. The outer margin will give space for the words 'The Confederate States of America, 22d February, 1862.' I do not think it necessary that the date should be expressed in words, the figures 22, 1862, being a sufficient compliance with the requirement of the law. Indeed, I know that in the drawing submitted to the committee that devised the seal, the date was in figures and not in words. There is not room for the date in words on the circumference of the seal without reducing the size of the letters so much as to injure the effect. In regard to the wreath and the motto, they must be placed as your taste and that of the artist shall suggest, but it is not deemed imperative, under the words of the act, that *all* the agricultural products (cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, wheat and rice) should find place in the wreath. They are stated rather as examples. I am

inclined to think that in so small a space as the wreath must necessarily occupy, it will be impossible to include all these products with good effect, and in that event I would suggest that cotton, rice and tobacco, being distinctive products of the southern, middle and northern States of the Confederacy, ought to be retained, while wheat and corn being produced in equal abundance in the United States as in the Confederacy, and therefore less distinctive than the other products named, may better be omitted, if omission is found necessary. It is not desired that the work be executed by any but the best artist that can be found, and the difference of expense between a poor and a fine specimen of art in the engraving is too small a matter to be taken into consideration in a work that we fondly hope will be required for generations yet unborn.

"Pray, give your best attention to this, and let me know about what the cost will be and when I may expect the work to be finished."

Monographic as we have designed this paper to be, we cannot refrain from transcribing the remainder of this dispatch of Mr. Benjamin, affording, as it does, a vivid picture of those times, as well as of its writer's hopeful and somewhat credulous nature, and of his ardent devotion to the now Lost Cause.*

"I am happy to apprise you that the information from all parts of the Confederacy is most encouraging as regards the growing crops. In the more southern portions of our country they are just beginning to gather the wheat harvest, and no complaint is heard from any part of the country of rust or other injury. The production of wheat

*The present writer is not one of those who expects 'to go to Mr. Benjamin when he dies,' and although regarding at the time and still regarding the undue influence which he (Mr. B.), exercised over Mr. Davis as a great calamity to 'The Cause,' justice requires that he should be vindicated from the suspicion of unfaithfulness to the Confederacy.

and other small grain will be very large this year, while that of corn will be enormous, probably enough for two year's consumption, unless some very unexpected and unusual calamity shall occur. Our enemies must find some other instrumentality than starvation before they succeed in breaking the proud spirit of this noble people. How it makes one's heart swell with emotion, to witness the calm, heroic, unconquerable determination to be free, that fills the breast of all ages, sexes and conditions.

"What effect may be produced in Europe by the repulse at Charleston and the defeat of Hooker is not now even the subject of speculation among the people. It is the evident purpose of foreign governments to accord or refuse recognition according to the dictates of their own interests or fears, without the slightest reference to right or justice, and we have thus learned, at heavy cost, a lesson that will, I trust, remain profitable to our statesmen in all future time.

"We have now, by our system of taxation, so arranged our financial affairs as to be entirely confident of the ability to resist, for an indefinite period, the execrable savages who are now murdering and plundering our people, and no prospect of peace is perceptible from any other source than the growing conviction among all classes in the United States that they are waging a war as ruinous in the present as it is hopeless for the future."

We have been unable to find anything among the Confederate archives, from Mr. Mason, in reply to the foregoing instructions as to the seal, until his dispatch to Mr. Benjamin, dated London, February 18, 1864, wherein occurs the following passage:

"In regard to the seal, too, I have now a report from Mr. Foley, who, it seems, has been some time absent from London. He says that the artizan, Mr. Wyon, employed to engrave it, informs him that it will yet require six

weeks or two months to finish it, as he is very anxious to bestow upon it all the pains so important a work demands. He is executing it in silver, (the metal the state seals of England are executed in) which offers the advantage of proof against rust so often destructive to seals executed in steel.

"The above is from Mr. Foley's note of the 10th instant, from Dublin, to me at Paris. He tells me, further, that the cost of engraving the seal, including the press for working it, will be eighty guineas, and that it is customary in England to receive one-half the amount on commencing the work. He advises that I should conform, as it will at least prevent excuse for delay, and which I will do as soon as I can obtain the address of Mr. Wyon."

We next hear from Mr. Mason, on the subject of the seal, under date of Paris, April 12, 1864.

Mr. Mason to Mr. Benjamin:

"Before I left London I called on Mr. Wyon, the artist employed to make the Confederate seal referred to in my No. 4, and paid him forty guineas, equal to forty-two pounds, one-half the cost of the seal, in advance, and arranged that when it was ready it should be carefully packed, with the press, &c., in a box lined with tin, and put in charge of Mr. Hotze until it could be sent over. He promised it should be ready by the middle of May."

We again indulge in a little episode by admitting the following illustrative paragraph from the same dispatch of Mr. Mason:

"In regard to the spurious report of Mr. Mallory, as Secretary of the Navy, about which I wrote in my No. 5, Lord Russell took occasion, a few days since, to say in the House of Lords, that since it was communicated to him Mr. Seward had admitted that it was a forgery, fabricated, as he said, by some 'gentleman' in New York!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

We give the precise number of his notes of exclamation. Noble old Virginian! we fear he was not the man for that place and those times. But one cannot read his dispatches without a feeling of profound admiration for his exalted character.

The official and pecuniary history of the seal ends with the following dispatch from Mr. Mason to Mr. Benjamin, and its appendix—being the bill of the engraver, amounting to 122 pounds 10 shillings, equal to about \$700 United States currency, at present (July, 1873,) price of gold. Other appendices, being “directions for using the Great Seal of the Confederate States,” we omit, as they relate to a purely mechanical subject:

“LONDON, *July 6, 1864,*

“24 UPPER SEYMOUR STREET,
“POSTMAN SQUARE.

“HON. J. P. BENJAMIN,
“*Secretary of State.*

“SIR: I have the pleasure to inform you that I send by Lieutenant Chapman, C. S. A., who bears this, the seal of the Confederate States, at last completed. It is much admired by all who have seen it here, and I hope you will approve it as a fine work of art.

“The seal is carefully put up in a separate small box, and Lieut. Chapman is charged, under no circumstances, to run the risk of its being captured. He takes the route to Bermuda, via Halifax, to sail on Saturday, 9th instant, and I ship through Messrs. Fraser, Trenholm & Co., by the steamer that takes him to Halifax, two boxes containing the iron press, with a full supply of wax and other materials for the use of the seal. Although not expressly ordered, in the difficulty of obtaining these in the Confederacy at present, at least of approved quality, I have thought it best to have them supplied here, all which I hope you will approve.

“The enclosed *duplicate* bill will furnish a list of those

materials, with the prices. The *original* I have paid and retain.

“I have requested Lieutenant Chapman to take charge of the boxes at Bermuda, and to see to their safe delivery. To relieve him of expenses on the route, I have further requested Messrs. Fraser, Trenholm & Co., here, if they can do so, to pay the freight all the way to Bermuda, and write to Major Walker at Bermuda to pay the freight thence to the Confederacy, should they not go in a Government ship.

“Still it is possible that some part of this may not be done, and I have accordingly told Lieutenant Chapman, should any expenses in the transportation devolve on him, it should be paid promptly at the Department of State, which oblige me by having attended to.

“I have the honor to be, &c., &c., &c.,
[Signed.] “J. M. MASON.”

[Duplicate Account.]

J. M. MASON, ESQ.

TO JOSEPH S. WYON,
Chief Engraver of Her Majesty's Seals, &c.,
287 Regent Street, London, W.

1864. July 2.—Silver Seal for the Confederate States of America, with ivory handle, box with spring lock and screw press...		£84
3,000 wafers.....	4	10
1,000 seal papers.....		7
1,000 strips of parchment.....		18
100 brass boxes.....	16	5
100 cakes of wax.....		7
100 silk cords.....	6	5
1 perforator		5
3 packing cases lined with tin..	3	
		£122 10

By cash, 21 March, £42.

Settled by cheque for balance, 6th July, 1864.

The article in Harper's Magazine from which we have quoted, lays stress upon the fact that, "that symbol, the Great Seal of the Confederacy, was sent to it by its nurse, England." But the author seems to have forgotten that in his paper on the Great Seal of the United States, which is in the same magazine, for July, 1856, he dwells with some complacency upon the fact that the earlier and more enduring symbol was "invented by an English aristocrat, Sir John Prestwich." He will accord to the Confederates at least the merit of having "invented" their own symbol; though it must be confessed there is not much that is heraldic about it beyond the inevitable man on horseback. And it will be noted, that the Confederates were indebted to England solely for the mechanical execution of their Great Seal. We (the writer speaking as a quondam Confederate) should have been too happy to have found an *alma mater* in old England. *Eheu!*

It may be not out of place here to observe that there are two faces to the Great Seal of the United States, but only the obverse is used, and, as in the case of the moon, we never see the reverse; the design of which consists of a truncated pyramid with the Omniscient eye above; at the base of the pyramid "1776" in numeral letters. Over the eye the words *Annuit Cœptis*, and underneath all the legend *Novus Ordo Seclorum*.

It is quite germane to our subject that we make some reference to the seals of the mother country. We find in the Congressional Library a curious little book published just 200 years ago. The following is its title:

Jus Sigilli or the *Law of England*, Touching His Majesties four principal *Seales*, viz: the *Great Seale*, the *Privie Seale*, the *Exchequer Seale*, and the *Signet*. Also of those grand officers to whose custody these *Seales* are committed.

London, 1673.

Consecrated to the Clarissimo, Consultissimo, Dissertissimoque Viro, Domino *Johanni Churchill*, In agro *Somersetensi* Equiti Aurato, &c., &c., &c., by *Johannes Brydall*, Armiger, ac *Somersetensis*.

[We will now give the leading sentence of each of the several chapters.]

I. OF THE GREAT OR BROAD SEAL* OF ENGLAND.

This Great Seal is in the custody of the Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper, and there is a special officer in the High Court of Chancery, called *Sigillator*, who hath the sealing of writs, and other things that pass the Great Seale.

II. OF THE PRIVIE SEAL.

Parvum Sigillum, the Little or Petit Seal, after called *Privatum Sigillum*, the Privie Seal, is a Seal that his most Sacred and excellent Majesty useth sometime for a warrant, whereby things passed the Privie Signet and brought to it are sent further to be confirmed by the Great Seal of *England*. Sometime for the strength or Credit of other things, written upon Occasions more Transitory and of less continuance than those be that pass the Great Seal.

III. OF THE EXCHEQUER SEAL.

The seal belonging to the Court of Exchequer is in the custody of the Chancellor, of whom these following authors speak thus, &c.:

[We can give only one, and choose him for his quaintness.]

3. PLOWDEN: *L'eschequer ad Chancellor et Seal et les Brieves usuall en le Chancery en L'eschequer de seiser le Terre en tiel Case, sont pluis antient, que le Register, ou le Treatise Prærogativa Regis.*

*It will be observed that the orthography of the English language was not fixed at that time, nor is it at the present.

IV. OF THE SIGNET.

This Seal is in the custody of the Principall Secretary, as well for Sealing his Majesties private Letters, as also such grants as pass the King's Hands by Bill assigned. And there are four Clerks of the Signet called *Clerici Signeti*, attending on this Secretary in their Course, and were used to have their Dyet at his table.

Our subject is not, strictly speaking, connected with numismatics, but by referring to Prime's work on coins, medals and seals, (Harper & Brothers, 1861,) plates will be seen of many of the Great Seals of England, beginning with William the Conqueror, and including Magna Carta John. It seems that each succeeding sovereign of that realm has his own broad seal.

The use of the seal is very ancient, almost coeval with historic man, for antique *intaglii* are found wherever the least degree of art has flourished. These antiquated seals, especially Etruscan, Grecian, Roman, Carthaginian, &c., are become almost common, even in this country, of late years, the more prized, perhaps, by reason of the fact that the polishing of the *intaglio* ranks among the lost arts, although there is now an artist in Paris whose work passes even with the *virtuosi*, but it is more expensive than the genuine, except as to those specimens which are so costly as to be termed "priceless." We have before us at this writing an impression from a head of Antinous, for which gem the owner has refused \$2,000; and we, ourselves, have a head of Jupiter valued at \$500. But very handsome ones can now be had in New York, for \$100 or so.

But turn we now to high antiquity.

From the "Sabæan* Researches" of John Landseer,† Fellow of the Royal Society, &c., and engraver to the King, a work published in London just fifty years ago, and for the use of which we are indebted to the well-furnished library of that Learned Theban, Genl. Albert Pike, we extract the following in illustration of our theme:

Mr. Landseer, in a letter to Sir Joseph Banks, in reference to certain cylindrical gems (*intaglii*) disinterred at Babylon and in Phœnicia, proceeds most satisfactorily to his reader to show why he conceives the gems to have been *originally* not worn as talismans or amulets, but used as *signets*, that is to say, impressed for the purposes of ratifying such social and religious transactions as called for a sacred pledge.

He then treats of them with reference to the ancient customs of Chaldea and Assyria, (Sabæan nations of course), and observes that Herodotus, in detailing those customs as they existed in his time, says that every Assyrian possessed a signet or seal. But this father of history does not inform us as to the shape of the seal, nor the manner in which mounted.

Reference in the Pentateuch to the engraver's art shows that in the time of Moses, it was no recent invention, and

*This word signifies worshippers of the stars, and is applied to all those very ancient nations which cultivated astronomy, deified the sun, &c.

The Sabæans are frequently mentioned in the Pentateuch, the book of Job, &c.

The charmingly poetical expression of "Sabæan odors from Araby the Blest," refers to the Arabian town of Saba, famed for its aromatic plants. Arabia Felix.

†Father of Sir Edwin Landseer, the celebrated painter of animals, especially canines, to whom the Rev. Sidney Smith said, when asked by him to sit for his portrait, "is thy servant a dog that he should do this thing?" When Landseer was presented to the King of Portugal that youthful monarch said, "I am delighted to make your acquaintance, Sir Edwin; I am so fond of beasts!"

that among the surrounding nations signets were then common and in well-known use.

Josephus, too, informs us that some ages before the time of Moses, when Pharaoh invested the youthful Joseph with power over the land and people of Egypt, he entrusted to his discretion the use of the royal *signet*, along with and as the ostensible mark of the royal authority.

The Chaldean progenitors of the Jews were engravers; and it is by no means improbable—considering the numerous uses to which the signet may have been applied in a rude age, when writing could have been practiced but by few persons; considering too, the great number of signets that must in consequence have become necessary—that Terah, the Chaldean, the father of Abraham, and the first artist whose name is anywhere upon record, was an engraver of signets as well as a sculptor or modeller of such small idols as Rachel, in three generations from Terah, is recorded to have hidden under the furniture of a camel.

The dimensions of these curious antiques are various, some being ten times as large as others. Speaking generally, they are from three-fourths of an inch to more than two inches in length. These elaborately wrought instruments of ratification, these pledges of honor or of superstitious faith, were easily portable and served as personal ornaments.

Ferdosi, the poet, records that when Sohrab, the son of his hero, (Roostum) had received his death wound from the hand of his unknown father, he tore open his coat of mail, and showed the seal which his mother had placed *on his arm* when she revealed to him the secret of his birth, and bade him seek his father. "The sight of his own *signet* (says Ferdosi) rendered Roostum quite frantic," &c.

The passage in the Idyl of Solomon, "set me as a seal upon thine arm," doubtless alludes to the same oriental custom, and is of a date between Judah and Roostum.

"Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days?

Hast thou caused the day-spring to know his place, that it might take hold of the ends of the earth? It is turned as clay to the seal," &c. Job., chap. 38.

The sealing substances of the land of Uz and probably that of the nations on the banks of the Euphrates, at this remote period, was clay, the ooze of that river, the very same substance, levigated, perhaps, of which the stamped Babylonian bricks are formed; and our instructive author adds, that of the various substances (such as wax, pastes, &c.,) on which he has tried to impress these ancient signets, he has found clay the fittest both for receiving and retaining the impression. The durability of well-made bricks, whether burnt in the fire or in the sun, is well known.

Our excellent author gives us much learned discourse on the philology of the noun *signet*, and the verb *to seal*, showing how the latter came to be used, both as a noun and as a verb. When the King of Babylon closed up the entrance to the temple of Baal, and that of the den of lions to which the prophet Daniel was consigned, by application of the royal signet,—in the latter instance there were added impressions from the signets of his nobles. The sacred text also alludes to the irrevocability of the seals of the Medes and Persians, by adding "that the purpose might not be changed."

Signet is from the same root and belongs to the same verbal family, with *Signal*, *Ensign*, *Signature*, *Insignia*, *Assignment*, *Signify*, *Assignment*; and the root, or etymon, from which all these, with a long *et cetera*, have grown lies deep, far deeper than the later *signum*, from which the dictionaries derive them, but which is itself derived, along with them, from the Hebrew root *Ath*, by some Hebraists pronounced *Oth*, but he believes more properly *Ath*, which, in our language, is rendered with sufficient fidelity by the word *Sign*. And by the expression of Hebrew root, is meant that from which the idea or *meaning*, not the *word* signet, has grown. It is not pretended to trace, with the

etymologists, the progress of a sound from one language, age and country to another, but rather the progress or transmission of an idea from the primitive ages to the present. Anything so anomalous as that the English word *Sign* can have been derived from a sound so dissimilar as the Hebrew *Ath*, it is hoped he will not be supposed to mean. If our word sign came from the Hebrew at all, it probably came, with the Greek *Sema*, from *Shem*, which is Name.

It may not be superfluous to mention, that the ordinary sense in which the names of common things are the accredited signs of those things is not here treated of, nor of that other branch of the meaning of *Shem*, which the English word *Notoriety* would best express, but more reconditely, of mystic signs, prophetic of the future, or emphatically denoting the past.

Ath or *Sign*, then, primarily meant and still means—What? A mystic mark, denoting and bringing to mind something absent, or some material essence intellectually apprehensible, but not cognizable by the senses.

To this family of words (Signal, Ensign, etc.), then belongs, and from this genealogical root springs the word *Signet*. Its termination *et* meaning no more in the abstract than advancement to the accomplishment of a purpose intended, which purpose, in the present case, is the manifestation of the sign; or else this termination is merely a diminutive, like the *ette* of the French, in which case *signet*, or *signette*, can mean no other than literally a miniature *sign*.

It is well known that our Saxon ancestors, soon after the introduction of Christianity, when few men were clerks enough to execute a written deed by the subscription of their names, were accustomed instead thereof, as illiterate persons do at present, to *sign* with a cross; of which it may be said either that they made the mystic sign of the

cross, or that the cross which they made was the sign* of their plighted faith.

[Another entertaining work, *Oriental Fragments*, by the author of the *Hindu Pantheon*, London, 1834, says:

The impressions of seals or rings, which I suppose may be called signets, were in days of yore extensively applied in lieu of manual signature. In such days it was not usual for any but the clergy to learn to write or read. Not many centuries, say four or five, have elapsed since reading and writing were in *England* deemed ungentlemanly acts. Those must have been glorious days for the reverend clergy.]

During the middle ages when the profession of arms was regarded as the only pursuit worthy of a gentleman, and learning was mostly confined to the ecclesiastical orders, it was looked upon as an effeminacy for men to know how to write their names; and this habit of thought lasted among the French noblesse long after the art of printing had disseminated intelligence amongst the middle classes. Even as late as 1789 a deed is of record in France signed by a member of a noble family with his † mark, to which the Scribener has added as explanation: "Cannot write his name for too much nobility."


To resume Landseer: That mark of the cross was the ordinary mode of signature among the Anglo Saxon Christians, who were, with regard to their inability to write, in the predicament of most of those Sabæans of old, whose signets, or instruments of signing we are about to consider, and some of whom lived, in all probability before writing was invented.

* * * * *

*Thus, John (his † mark) Smith, and hence, from the *form* of that mark, the popular error as to the meaning of the expression to *sign* one's name, as though it were derived from the sign of the cross.

In the dark ages, which succeeded the overthrow of the Roman power, not only few men could write, but there were no artists capable of cutting seals; signature with the cross was therefore among the Christians, in a great degree, a thing of necessity, though they sometimes made use of other ceremonies as signs or tokens. But when art began to reappear, and engraved stones to be raked up from the ruins of past ages, sealing was added; and as writing gradually became more known and practised, subscription of names came also into vogue, introduced at first, perhaps, by learned clerks, and by way of noting *whose* signature had ratified the deed that might be in question, for even Charlemagne was not penman enough to subscribe his own name, but was accustomed to sign with an antique gem, which had been set for that purpose in the pommel of his sword, saying, as he impressed it, "what I sign with the hilt I will defend at the point of my sword."

But it ought to be noted here that regal signets, used as instruments of authority in the signature of public edicts, appear to have crept into use after the age of Solomon,* and perhaps from the time when the monarchical power of Saul was superinduced on the republic of Moses. Whether they contained celestial signs, or more than verbal inscriptions of the names and office of the kings, is nowhere recorded, but with one of these, Jezebel appears to have signed her forged letters to the elders; and in the time of the prophet Jeremiah, very particular mention is made of another signet, used as an instrument of legality in the purchase of a field, from which it would appear to have been the custom of the Hebrew conveyancers in the

*We have been unable to ascertain why the cabalistic star composed of two equilateral triangles interlaced thus  should be called "the Seal of Solomon;" much less why, having *six* angles, it should be called a *pentacle*, *i. e.* pentagon, as though it had but *five* angles. [See the Ingoldsby Legends. A Lay of St. Dunstan.]

reign of Zedekiah to deposit a sealed copy of every deed of transfer of landed property in some public office.

We here reluctantly take leave of our most fascinating author, having extracted some of the the most apposite passages from thirty-four quarto of the original.

But we hear our impatient readers exclaim, what about that particular seal with the name of which your so-called monograph is headed? Kind friends, read on:

THE GREAT SEAL OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

To Col. CHARLES C. JONES, jr.,*

Attorney and Counsellor at Law,

41 Wall street, New York.

MY DEAR SIR: At considerable trouble and expense, I have been so fortunate as to rescue this interesting memorial from oblivion, and, possibly, a vandalic melting pot (it is of pure silver, and weighs several pounds). I have had many electrotype impressions† of it executed, and in deference to your antiquarian and archæological tastes and devotion to the Lost Cause, have the pleasure of handing you, herewith, the first one finished, which you may regard as a proof-impression before letters.

My object has been two-fold; first, to afford many of our compatriots an opportunity of possessing and holding *in memoriam* the *fac simile* of so *unique* and charming—in spite of so many sad recollections—a *souvenir*, for which purpose they will be offered for sale; and, second, to use the proceeds of the sale, less bare cost of the medals, cases, &c., in the relief of as many as possible of the needy and

*Author of "Monumental Remains of Georgia;" "Historical Sketches of the Chatham Artillery during the Confederate Struggle for Independence;" "Antiquities of the Southern Indians, particularly of the Georgia Tribes;" &c. &c.

†Very skillfully and faithfully executed by Mr. S. H. Black, No. 4, Marion street, New York.

afflicted of the South, whose name, alas! is legion. And with this motive I beg you to suggest the name of some one in Savannah and in Augusta who would be willing to assist me, as agents, in this benevolent *sigillary* undertaking.

With much regard, your friend, &c.,

NEW YORK, June 20, 1873.

And where is that Seal? It is in the possession of the writer of this paper. Who rescued it? And to whom does it belong? We reserve a reply to these questions for another occasion. Suffice it to say, at present, *detur digniori*.

P. S.

We give the *fac simile* of Harper's wood-cut illustration of the Broad Seal of the Confederate States, which is not half the diameter of the original, but otherwise tolerably correct, by way of frontispiece to our *brochure*, they having kindly sent us an electrotype of the same. We would add that the writer in Harper is mistaken when he says "antiquaries, in the future, will search in vain for any impression of an emblem of sovereignty of the Confederate States of America. None was ever made." The truth is there were several documents, which went abroad, authenticated with it, also a few impressions given to officials, clerks and others.

We trust that the loyal heart of the North, which was so acutely sensitive to the sight of the Confederate gray shortly after the war, will not be distressed by the exhibition of this symbol of the long extinct Confederacy—*ære perennius* though it be. *Fuit Ilium!* The *alere flammam* is no part of our motive.

And we trust to be excused for indulging in this pleasant task, in the use of the first person plural. This treatise was designed as a newspaper editorial, but it has grown to an inordinate length for such purpose. The writer is not unmindful of the fact that Prentice, of the *Louisville Journal*, once said, "no man has the right to speak of himself as 'we,' unless he be a king, an editor, or have a *tape-worm*."

These medals of the Great or Broad Seal of the late Confederate States are now ready for delivery to such persons as may desire to possess a specimen. They are finished in gold, silver and bronze (i. e. *gilt, plated, &c.*) price five and seven dollars each—according to the cost of the cases in which mounted. Orders will be received by Messrs. M. W. Galt, Brother & Co., Jewellers, No. 1107 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

N. B. They will not be furnished for speculative purposes; but to Charitable Institutions at half price—being about prime cost. The number executed is limited. A statement shall be published of the number distributed, and of the disposition made of the surplus proceeds.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July, 1873.

Bell Telephone
Walnut 8427

THE NUMISMATIST

An Illustrated Monthly for Those Interested
in Coins, Medals and Paper Money.

VOL. XXXIX.

APRIL, 1926

No. 4

A Find of Roman Gold Coins.

By J. M. WULFING.

Somewhere in the Balkans there was unearthed last year a hoard of Roman gold coins of the fourth century, all in mint state. On account of the stringent laws against the exportation of gold coins, all such finds are quickly and quietly dispersed. A member of the St. Louis Numismatic Society acquired two specimens from this hoard, but, unfortunately, no details regarding them have so far been obtainable.

One of the two specimens received was an aureus of Licinius, who was made co-emperor by Diocletian and Maximinian in 307 A. D. Later he married Constantia, a sister of Constantine the Great, but soon quarreled with him, and, after being defeated in battle, was executed on order of his brother-in-law in 323 A. D.

Our coin is in perfect condition, weighs 5.36 grams and measures 20mm. The obverse has head of the emperor to right, with triple wreath of pearls, and the inscription LICINIUS AUGUSTUS. This is a rare type. Cohen lists only one coin with this obverse—Vol. VII, No. 157.

The reverse has standing figure of winged Victory; in front of her, pedestal with shield on which she is writing VOT X MUL XX. Along the margin, VICTORIAE AUGG N N In exergue, S M N E No coin is given by Cohen with this reverse under Licinius, but there is one of Constantine with exactly the same reverse. (See Cohen, Vol. VII, page 302, No. 624.) The coin is interesting because it indicates that it was struck when the two emperors were in harmony.



The other coin, also in mint state, is even more important. It was struck by Valens, Emperor from 364-378 A. D. Weight, 4.42 grams. Obverse, bust of Emperor to right, with diadem, D N VALENS P F AUG. Reverse, Victory seated, writing VOT V MVL X on shield. Around the margin VICTORIA AUGUSTORUM and star. In field O B. In exergue COMTM, the first M and T in ligature.

Beginning with the reign of Valens and his brother Valentinian, the letters COMOB or CONOB in the exergue appear on Roman gold coins. For several centuries numismatists have discussed the meaning of these letters. Cohen devotes four pages to CONOB (Vol. VIII, pages 83-87), the conclusion being that no explanation is satisfactory, but that possibly the CON stands for Constantinople and O B for obryzatus (pure gold). On the other hand, he avoids discussing COMOB entirely.

Some years ago the late Professor Willers suggested that COM be interpreted COMES (AURI), the title of an official of the mint. Prof. Kurt Regling of Berlin, to whom our coin was sent, considers the same a bril-

MAN

ST

ADELPHIA.

ods For Sale.

ENTS.

Common Dates.

Wide date. Rev. large	
Ex. f. L. br.	1.25
Star points inside of dia.	
R. Small letters. Fine.	
Scarce	.75
Close date near border;	
near point of bust. R.	
letters. V. fine. Brown.	1.00
Ex. fine. Brown olive.	1.50
Small date. Crack con-	
all stars. Ex. fine. l. olive	3.50
Close date, crack around	
V. fine. Orange olive.	1.50
Huge 18 4. Diff. head.	
nose. Die cracked. R.	
letters. V. fine	.75
Small, wide date. Differ-	
ev. V. fine. Light olive.	1.50
Same. Fine. 2-M	1.00
Large stars. Good	.25
Head with smiling ex-	
on & high pointed dia.	
V. fine. Brown. Scarce.	1.50
Blunt diadem, large star	
Huge 8. Fine. Bronzed.	1.00
Curved date. Die broken	
order above 6th star. Ex.	
Brown. Scarce	2.00
Close date. 18 touch.	
hair cord. Crack from	
o 6th star. Ex. fine.	
Scarce	1.00
Distant 1, close 37. Very	
Brown, traces of orig-	
ed	.75
High 1 distant. 9th and	
stars recut. Cracked from	
o 8th star. Rare. Unc.	1.50
Medium wide, equally	
l date. Scarce. V. Fine.	
brown color	.50
Slightly larger head.	
lock in double coil.	
Light brown	1.00
Same v. fine, brown	.40
Beaded hair string. V.	
Dark olive. Scarce	.50
Beaded hair cord. Stars	
head double cut. Small	
Slight spot before	
Unc. Light olive	3.00

000.

It is interesting to know that when Coolidge's head appears on the Sesqui coin it will be in keeping with the tradition which had its origin in marking coins with the head of a god to ward off evil spirits. In Roman days the Caesars, claiming descent from the gods, imprinted their likenesses on coins, and the custom was borrowed by the English in later years. This gave rise to the "king's touch," which was supposed to cure skin diseases when the royal hand touched the afflicted person with the coin of the realm.—News paper Clipping.

Please return to C. H.

About the "Great Seal of the Confederacy" C. H.



1862.



1867.

J. S. & A. B. WYON.

CHIEF ENGRAVERS OF HER MAJESTY'S SEALS.

MEDALLISTS, JEWELLERS, &C.

287, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

STUDIO & WORKS, 2 & 3, LANGHAM CHAMBERS, PORTLAND PLACE, W.

6th March, 1874.

To all whom it may concern.

Having received from John T. Pickett, Esq^r, Counsellor-at-Law, of Washington City, in the United States of America, a certain impression of the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America, obtained by the Electrotype process, we hereby certify that the said impression is a faithful reproduction of the identical Seal engraved in 1864, by our predecessor the late Joseph S. Wyon, Esq^r, for James M. Mason, Esq^r, who was at that time

in London, representing the interests of the Confederate States of which the Seal referred to was designed as the symbolical emblem of sovereignty.

We may add that it has been the invariable practice of our house to preserve proof impressions of all important seal-work executed by us: and on a comparison of the impression now sent us with the proof impression retained by us we have no hesitation in asserting that so perfect an impression could not have been produced except from the original Seal. We have never made any duplicate of the Seal in question.

Witness our hands, the date above given.

J. S. & A. B. Wyon

Please refer to CH

About the "Great Seal of the Confederacy" CH



J. S. & A. B. WYON.

CHIEF ENGRAVERS OF HER MAJESTY'S SEALS.

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Witness our hands, the date above given.

J. S. & A. B. Wyon



FLAGS OF THE CONFEDERACY

S. A. CUNNINGHAM
FOUNDER

Confederate Veteran

OFFICIALLY
REPRESENTS

UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
CONFEDERATED SOUTHERN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Nashville, Tenn.

4
11
N. 73.
that he still held the original article. Also, that when the question arose ~~that he still held the~~ copies, in 1874, he wrote to Messrs. Wyon for their confirmation of its genuineness. Really, there can be no doubt that Pickett had these copies made from the original. Now how did the original get in his possession if the story of Jim Jones is true? Was Jones recreant to his trust? If he buried the Seal or threw it into the river, how does he account for its resurrection?

I do not ask you to tell me anything in advance of the publication of your story, but as his story has already been published, I do not think you would lose anything by simply giving me information on those points. I will promise you not to make any publication of it. I simply want to know how he makes his story fit in there.

yours very truly,

E. D. Jones

Did Mr Rayan ever confirm Jim's story? He died only a few years ago and must have heard of it. And if Jim buried the Seal, why did he not dig it up and turn it over to Mr Davis as soon as he could safely?



FLAG OF THE CONFEDERACY

S. A. CUNNINGHAM
FOUNDER

Confederate Veteran

OFFICIALLY
REPRESENTS

UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY
BONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
CONFEDERATED SOUTHERN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Nashville, Tenn.

August 28, 1917.

Your late favor was duly received with order for copies of the Veteran for August, 1912, and March, 1897. The first was sent at once, but we are not able to furnish a copy of the latter, having none in stock, so we hold ten cents to your credit.

In going through some old manuscripts recently, I found the ~~enclosure~~ facsimile of a letter from the engravers of the Great Seal of the Confederacy, which should convince you that the correspondence between that firm and the man who had the duplicates made so many years ago was genuine. As the original seal must have been in hand when these duplicates were made, how can we believe the old negro's story that he buried it and had never been able to unearth it? This letter is that referred to in the article appearing in the Veteran for March, 1897.

Yours very truly,



FLAG OF THE CONFEDERACY

B. A. CUNNINGHAM
FOUNDER

Confederate Veteran

OFFICIALLY
REPRESENTS

UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
CONFEDERATED SOUTHERN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Nashville, Tenn.

June 26, 1917.

Your favor of 22nd and 24th just received, and I hasten to reassure you in regard to your story of Jim Jones, and to return the manuscript herewith. I did not do so at once, as you did not mention you expected its return, and thought perhaps you simply sent a copy and did not expect it to be sent back. I had no idea of letting anyone use it in any way. I did not know that the story told by Jim Jones was such a secret, as I had seen references to it in different articles for a number of years past.

p. 2.
The Veteran has the full story of the recovery of the Seal in the number for August, 1912, as written by Judge Montgomery, of North Carolina, and in it he refers to the fact that Jim Jones' story could not be true, as he was not in Richmond at the time of the evacuation, for proof of which he quotes Col. Burton Harrison, who states that he left Richmond before the evacuation with Mrs. Davis, her maid and coachman, James Jones. So you see the Seal could hardly have been placed in his possession before it was known that the city would be evacuated.

N.B. {
I have here in the office a copy of the Seal presented to Mr. Cunningham by an old friend, whose name is written on the case with the date, 1873, showing that it came into his possession in that year. In the Veteran for March, 1897, page 99, there is an article referring to the Great Seal, giving a picture of it and quoting a letter from J. S. and A. B. Wyon under date of March 6, 1874, in which reference is made to having received from Jno. T. Pickett, Esq., of Washington City, U.S.A., an impression of the Great Seal, Confederate States of America, which they state is a faithful reproduction of the identical Seal engraved in 1864 by their predecessor, Joseph S. Wyon, Esq., and stating that they had never made any duplicates of the Seal.

Then, in the article by Judge Montgomery you will find a statement that in 1873 Pickett wrote to Captain Selfridge referring to an electrotpe he was having made of something that he had gotten from Captain Selfridge, and that when placing these electrotypes on the market he would create the impression

OFFICIAL SEAL MAKER FOR THE CONFEDERACY.

[R. M. Cheshire, in Baltimore Sun.]

Herman Baumgarten, who died in Washington during the past year, was the official seal maker for the Southern Confederacy. A short time before his death he talked entertainingly to the writer, declaring that he had made every seal used by the Southern Confederacy, and that he was regularly employed for that purpose. In the spring of 1861, at the earnest solicitation of Judah P. Benjamin, he joined fortunes with the Confederacy. He had repeatedly declined to accept assignments offered, fearing that he would be permanently cut off from his young wife and infant son. Senator Benjamin and others held out very attractive proposals from a financial standpoint, and he finally yielded to their persuasions.

"I first went to Montgomery, Ala.," said Mr. Baumgarten, "then the seat of the government, with letters of introduction to Alexander H. Stephens, who immediately offered me a very lucrative position, which I declined, agreeing, however, to do all the engraving at a price to be set by myself. My offer was accepted, and I at once began engraving the great seal. While at Montgomery I practically completed engraving all the seals for the several departments of the government. I secured the services of two experienced engravers from New Orleans; but after working two weeks and earning \$800 each, they threw up their jobs and left. When I had worked six weeks, I sent for my wife and child, and I put \$2,200 in my wife's hands upon her arrival. When the seat of government was moved from Montgomery to Richmond, I accompanied the officials, traveling on the special train. Immediately after reaching Richmond I established a plant and soon had quite a shop. After finishing the seals, I began preparing to make money and stamps on wood plates. Eventually steel plates were obtained and beautiful specimens of the engraver's art were turned out, equaling the best work of to-day."

Mr. Baumgarten related a thrilling experience in running the blockade at the closing of the struggle. In the latter two years of the war the subject of erecting mints for coinage of silver and gold was discussed, and Mr. Baumgarten was furnished with high credentials to parties in England and drafts on the London fiscal agent of the Confederate States, amounting to over two million pounds, to purchase machinery. He went from Richmond to Wilmington, where a run of the blockade was to be made. Presenting his credentials to the officer in charge of the port, he was put aboard a blockade runner to go out at the first favorable opportunity. After waiting all day, Mr. Baumgarten approached the captain and asked the reason for delay. He was handed a pair of marine glasses and told to take a look. The glasses revealed the fact that fourteen Yankee gunboats lay off the harbor in a semi-circle. "Do you think you'd try to get through that?" asked the captain. "We can go only under the most favorable conditions, and I am prepared, rather than be captured, to blow up the ship and all on board."

Mr. Baumgarten said the vessel had a cargo of cotton, and the greater portion of the bales were ranged upon the decks along the rails fastened together with chains, forming a bulwark about as high as a man's head, making a splendid protection against cannon shot. Mr. Baumgarten was shown a spot immediately over the fore-castle, and, lifting a tarpaulin which covered the deck, about six bushels of coarse gunpowder was displayed. The captain said: "This is to be used in blowing everybody to h— if capture seems inevitable."

At midnight the blockade runner started, but did not es-

cape observation of the Yankee gunboats. Their shots, though enfilading, all went too high, but the chase was kept up until after daylight. Bermuda was reached and the Confederate ensign was raised at the peak and the stars and bars at the taffrail, while three musicians struck up "Dixie" as we entered port. The cotton was discharged and the runner started back with munitions of war. Mr. Baumgarten, however, had to wait in Bermuda two weeks to get a vessel to Liverpool, and this delay proved disastrous to his mission—that is, so far as he was concerned in a financial way.

An uneventful voyage brought him to Liverpool and thence to London. There he reported to the fiscal officer at 29 Gernyn Street, presented credentials and drafts, and sought to get down to business at once. The fiscal agent was out of funds, and, handing him \$200 as pocket money, directed him to put up at the Queen Hotel, where all expenses would be met until news could be received from Richmond. What the fiscal agent heard from Richmond was the downfall of the Confederacy. This left the fiscal agent and Mr. Baumgarten in the lurch; but Mr. Baumgarten was provided with a ticket to Paris and a letter of introduction to Mr. Slidell, then representing the Confederate government at the French capital. Mr. Slidell took care of the Confederacy's seal engraver until the President issued his amnesty proclamation, when he pulled out for home.

"I got here in time," said Mr. Baumgarten, "to be arrested an average of six times a day; and if I had arrived two weeks sooner, I suppose I would have been torn to pieces."

[The foregoing is given for what it is worth and not to discredit publications already made. If Mr. Baumgarten had completed the great seal at the time that he states he went to work upon it, there probably would have been evidences of its use. Let us accept his report as in the main correct. However, if his work on the great seal had been perfected in face of so much controversy, he should have been more specific. In the Journal of the Confederate Congress for October 11, 1862, there is reported and approved "an account in favor of Julius Baumgarten for making a drawing of seal, \$25." On September 24, 1862, Julius Baumgarten was paid \$60 "for making a drawing of seals." There is no record in the Journal of "Herman" B., but such mistake may have been made by the correspondent, Mr. Cheshire.—EDITOR.]

"WAR OF THE STATES."

W. F. Dent, a member of Camp Lomax, U. C. V., Montgomery, Ala., sends this indorsement of the position taken by the VETERAN as to the proper name for the war between the States: "I heartily indorse the position you take in regard to the name which should be given to the war of 1861-65. I also note that Alexander H. Stephens in his great history written in 1867 calls the great struggle the 'War between the States,' and Admiral Semmes in his book, published in 1868 or 1869, designates it as the 'War between the States.' This shows that your position was the one held by these great leaders, and should be the only title ever used by Southern people. I am perhaps the youngest member of any Confederate Camp, as I was born March 3, 1855, and obtained my cross of honor on account of services rendered to the Confederate secret service in Maryland by me as a boy."

Comrade Dent misconstrues the claim of the VETERAN as to a name for the war. It is simply suggesting the shorter word "of" for "between." "War of the States," like "War of the Roses," seems a little more dignified and a little less harsh than "War between the States."

PANAMA PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION
SAN FRANCISCO, 1915
COMMISSIONER FOR NORTH CAROLINA
FRED A. OLDS, RALEIGH

March 30th., 1915.

My dear Mrs. Hardenstein:-

I am certainly glad you like the pine
pluge. I will send you some arbutus and yellow jessamine later.

You ask about some place to go in the long leaf pine
country. You will find Southern Pines, about sixty miles south
of Raleigh, on the Seaboard Air Line, very pleasant, with good
hotels and boarding houses.

Jim is mistaken about the great seal of the Confederacy.
You will find it is in Richmond, as I told you. I have before me
a letter from the lady who is the curator of the Confederate Museum
there, referring to this very seal, which is of gold, weighs
about five pounds, which has been taken to England and absolutely
identified by the son of the man in the Royal Mint, who made it.

I am equally sure that the seal Jim threw in the James
River was one used in the executive department of the Confederacy
and not the Great Seal. If you would write to Judge Walter Mont-
gomery, Raleigh, you will find what I told you to be absolutely
correct. Jim is the ~~sole~~ of honor, but he is simply making a quite
natural error. One of the ²Confederate clerks carried off the Great
Seal and in later years sold it, and thats the story,

Yours very sincerely,

Fred A. Olds.

Let. of J. P. Bess May
30-1863 sent to
Mr. C. S. Comm.
& Gen. B. Taylor -
It was completed in
July 1864 & sent to
Conf. Gen. Taylor
& Gen. Chapman,
C. S. Gen. Taylor
Richmond, Va. in
Apr. 1865 at 1 time
examination occurred,
so no official
signature) ever
taken - / x

(Seal of U. S.
Ltr. (C. S.))

photo. copy of C. C. Tyler's replica
of original die of C. S. A.

This, by Tyler was produced by
a die he executed from the Baumgartner
production, and when N. O. La. was
threatened by Ben Butler, Mr. Tyler
destroyed his die, & hid what replicas
he had left. They were found
yrs. later when the store was sold
& overhauled for recording. Replicas were bought by
Mr. W. O. Hart, Atty Genl La., N. O. La.

Photo - taken of the original
die, executed by Mr. J. Baumgartner
of Washington, D. C., and later
replicas taken of it by Mr. C. C. Tyler
of New Orleans, La. before May 1862
when he had destroyed his copy of die
so that further replicas could not be
produced. Mr. Baumgartner presented me
his original die of the Seal in Wash. - D. C.

Washington Post

WASHINGTON: SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 1911.

DISCUSS DIXIE'S SEAL

Fate of Confederacy Emblem
Puzzles Southerners.

counts are unconfirmed. Senator Martin, of Virginia, last night said that he had had several discussions on the subject, but had never solved the problem. Other members of the Virginia delegation told the same story. Members of Congress from South Carolina, from Kentucky, from Tennessee, and from the other Southern States were equally in the dark. All confess that they have not the slightest idea of the

CONFLICTING STORIES

Statement by Old Body Servant of Jefferson That He Alone Knows Hiding Place of Seal is Various Contradicted in England, South Carolina, Georgia, or Richmond?

Where is the great seal of the Confederacy?

This is a question which is causing endless discussion among Southern members of Congress, veterans of the Confederate army and navy, and Southerners generally throughout the United States.

It was generally supposed, and for a long time the supposition went unquestioned, that when the Union army entered Richmond the historic seal of the Confederate government, as well as its valuable archives, was captured and transferred to Washington, and that the seal was placed in the custody of the War Department. When the matter was investigated it was learned that the seal was not among the property of the Confederate government captured at Richmond by Grant.

Congressmen Interested.

Since the discovery that the seal was not in possession of the United States government speculation has been rife as to its whereabouts, and several supposed authorities have come forward in public print, claiming to know where the seal is hidden away. Recent discussion of the seal and its probable hiding place has become so complicated by the conflict of alleged authority that the majority of the Southern members of Congress freely admit they are at a loss to reach a satisfactory solution of the mooted question.

The discussion was recently reopened by the published statement of James H. Jones, former body servant of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America, who claims that he is the only living person who knows where the seal is hidden. Jones is a veteran negro of the old school, and was a slave. He is a resident of Washington, and has for years held a position with the government.

Jones claims that Mr. Davis intrusted the seal to his care when he was making preparations to leave Richmond for the South, before the arrival of the Union army, telling him to hide it safely and never divulge the secret to any one. Discussing the whereabouts of the seal a few days ago, Jones said:

Knows Hiding Place.

"If I could tell the hiding place of the great Confederate seal without violating the confidence reposed in me by Mr. Davis I would be very glad to see the seal of the Confederacy in some museum in Richmond or Raleigh, N. C. No money consideration, however, could for a moment influence me in this matter. No sir, I love the memory of Mr. Davis and his family too devotedly to think of any such transaction. I am not made out of that kind of material, and was raised by white people who abhorred dishonorable principles. I have in my veins a good streak of Indian blood, and you know an Indian detests a liar and a thief. I would be nothing less than both did I do otherwise than I am doing. It does not matter how many offers are made, or how large the amounts, James Jones will never entertain them."

"Do you believe that you could recover the seal today?" he was asked.

"I feel entirely satisfied that I can, but I never will. I never did deceive Mr. Davis, and now that he is dead I am sure I shall remain true to the implicit confidence he always placed in me, almost from the first day I entered his employ."

Saw It in England.

McK. Darwood contradicts Jones by saying:

In an article in the "Baltimore Daily Sun" it was stated that McK. Darwood, who served as Mr. Davis's

statement by Old Body Servant of Jefferson Davis that he alone knows hiding place is variously contradicted. Is it

library, Cambridge, Mass., there shown "the great seal of the Southern Confederacy, presented by Judah B. Benjamin," and I have no doubt it is there yet.

Another authority offers to the New York Sun a communication in which he claims the great seal, the die of which was made in England, did not reach Richmond until after that city had been evacuated by the Confederate army. He says:

Referring to the controversy regarding the whereabouts of the great seal of the Confederate States, I find among my "scraps" on the subject two statements:

"It is in the office of the secretary of state of South Carolina," having been presented to Waycross, Ga.

"Prof. E. A. Pound, superintendent of public schools at Waycross, Ga., says the seal is in possession of Miss Belle Blackshear, of Waycross, and that he has seen it."

The seal is in the possession of the Florida Times-Union (1909).

It may not be generally known, but no official impression of the great seal was ever taken, as Lieut. Chapman, who brought the die from England, where it was cut, did not reach Richmond until after that city had been evacuated by the Confederates.

MALCOLM TOWNSEND.

The seal, which Jones claims he alone knows the hiding place of is the last great seal of the Confederacy used by President Davis. There were others used before that. It is claimed that copies were made of the former seals, but according to Jones, the last one was never copied. The last seal was made in England, and is supposed to have been a large silver one. According to Jones, the former seals were made out of wood.

Gen. Gordon Has Copy.

The story told by Jones was yesterday declared to be plausible by Gen. George W. Gordon, representative from Tennessee, the author of a history of the Confederacy, and about the only member of either branch of Congress who professes to really know anything about the last great seal of the Confederacy.

"From what I have been able to learn, there can be little doubt that the original of the great seal has been hopelessly lost, but I know that there are quite a number of copies in existence," Gen. Gordon declares. "I have a copy at my home in Memphis, Tenn. I have looked up all of the records and have found that many of the stories told about the seal are not justified by facts."

News to Georgians.

If the story about the seal being in Georgia is true, Representative Brantly, of Georgia, and other members of Congress from that State, have never heard of the fact. Representative Brantly last night said he had looked the question up several times.

According to several stories the great seal is now in Richmond, but these ac-

I never did deceive Mr. Davis, and now that he is dead I am sure I shall remain true to the implicit confidence he always placed in me, almost from the first day I entered his employ.

→ OVER

Saw it in England

In a letter to the New York Times, W. McK. Darwood contradicts Jones by saying:

"In an article headed 'Bailey defends Secession' it was stated that a certain negro James A. Jones who served as Mr Davis' body servant was the only man living who 'knows where the seal of the Confederate States is and won't tell

This is not warranted by facts.
On the 2d of Sept. 1892 I visited
Trinity Li— see next column

Fate of Confederacy Emblem Puzzles Southerners

counts are unconfirmed. The Virginia, last night said that he had had several discussions on the subject, but had never solved the problem. Other members of the Virginia delegation told the same story. Members of Congress from South Carolina, from Kentucky, from Tennessee, and from the other Southern States were equally dark. All confess that they are in the original of the

CONFLICTING STORIES TOLD

Statement by Old Body Servant of Jefferson That He Alone Knows Hiding Place Is Various Contradicted—Is It in England, South Carolina, Georgia, or Richmond?

Where is the great seal of the Confederacy?

This is a question which is causing endless discussion among Southern members of Congress, veterans of the Confederate army and navy, and Southerners generally throughout the United States.

It was generally supposed, and for a long time the supposition went unquestioned, that when the Union army entered Richmond the historic seal of the Confederate government, as well as its valuable archives, was captured and transferred to Washington, and that the seal was placed in the custody of the War Department. When the matter was investigated it was learned that the seal was not among the property of the Confederate government, but had been given by Grant.

Congressmen Interested

Since the discovery that the seal was not in possession of the United States government speculation has been rife as to its whereabouts, and several supposed authorities have come forward in public print, claiming to know where the seal is hidden away. Recent discussion of the seal and its probable hiding place has become so complicated by the conflict of alleged authority that the majority of the Southern members of Congress freely admit they are at a loss to reach a satisfactory solution of the mooted question.

The discussion was recently reopened by the published statement of James H. Jones, former body servant of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America, who claims that he is the only living person who knows where the seal is hidden. Jones is a veteran hero of the old school, and was a slave. He is a resident of Washington and has for years held a position with the government.

James claims that Mr. Davis intrusted the seal to his care when he was making preparations to leave Richmond for the South, before the arrival of the Union army, telling him to hide it safely and never divulge the secret to any one. Discussing the whereabouts of the seal a few days ago, Jones said:

Knows Hiding Place.

"If I could tell the hiding place of my great Confederate seal without violating the confidence reposed in me by Mr. Davis I would be very glad to see the work of the Confederacy in some museum at Richmond or Raleigh, N. C. No money consideration, however, could for a moment influence me in this matter. We will live in the memory of Mr. Davis and his family for generations to come in such transaction. I am so much of a Yankee that kind of material, and was raised by white people who abhorred dishonorable principles. I have in my veins a good stream of Indian blood, and you know an Indian detests a liar and a thief. I would be nothing less than both did I do otherwise than I am doing. It does not matter how many offers are made or how large the amounts, James Jones will never entertain them."

"Do you believe that you could recover the soul today?" he was asked.

"I feel entirely satisfied that I can, but I never will. I never did deceive Mr. Davis, and now that he is dead I am sure I shall remain true to the implicit confidence he always placed in me, arising from the first day I entered his employ."

Saw It in England

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In an article headed "Bailey Defends Separation," it was stated that a "Colored" negro, James A. Jones, who served as Mr. Davis' body servant, was the only man living who "knew" where the seal of the Confederate States "and won't tell." This is not warranted by facts. On the 22d of September, 1892, I visited Trinity L.

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there shows the great seal of the
Southern Confederacy, presented by
Judah B. Benjamin, and I have no
yet.

Another authority offers to seal the die of which claims the seal, the die of which was made in England, did not reach Richmond after that city had been evacuated by the Confederate army. He says: "The controversy regarding the seal of the city of Richmond is a very old one. It is said that the seal of the city of Richmond was made in England, and that it was not until after the city had been evacuated by the Confederate army, that the seal was found to be genuine. The controversy regarding the seal of the city of Richmond is a very old one. It is said that the seal of the city of Richmond was made in England, and that it was not until after the city had been evacuated by the Confederate army, that the seal was found to be genuine."

Referring to the controversy regarding the whereabouts of the great seal of the Confederate States, I find among the "scraps" on the subject the following:

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News to Georgians.

If the story about the seal being Georgia's true Representative Brand of Georgia and other members of Congress from that State, have never heard of the Representative Brand of the night seal, he had looked the question several times.

According to several
real estate in Richmond, but these

X 28

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
Seed and Plant Introduction and Distribution.

U. S. Department of Agriculture.
Official Business.

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300.

Handwritten:
Mr. J. B. Bauman
Washington, D.C.
1918

Handwritten:
The Post's mouth
W. H. Aul
Washington, D.C.
original die
J. Bauman

H. Daniel, D. H. H. Waters, George
Terry and W. H. Waters.

GREAT SEAL REPRODUCED.

Device Used by Confederate States

Recalls Southern Valor.

The great seal of the Confederate states has been reproduced by Miss Annie Payne Pillow, daughter of Gen. Gideon J. Pillow of Mexican and Confederate fame. This reproduction is fully twenty inches in diameter.

It is colored and represents Gen. George Washington, the central device, in his full continental uniform, mounted on his white horse; the whole surrounded by a wreath of agricultural products of the south in their natural tints and tied by ribbons of the Confederate colors. The lettering is in white against a dull gray background.

Accompanying this reproduction is a certificate of Allan G. Wyon, medalist and engraver to the King of England, successor to Joseph S. Wyon, engraver of the original great seal of the Confederate states. In this document Mr. Wyon certifies that he has in his studio an original impression of the great seal of the Confederate states, made by Joseph S. Wyon, and that he has compared with this original impression the reproduction made by Miss Pillow and finds that her reproduction is accurate and correct.

Miss Pillow has written a history of the original great seal, corroborated by extracts from journals of the Confederate states congress and official correspondence from official and authentic sources. In this booklet appears an interesting account of the several reproductions of the great seal.

Miss Pillow states that she has reproduced the seal as a "solemn, appropriate memorial to commemorate the valor, to perpetuate the name and to honor the hallowed memory of the heroic southern people, and she earnestly hopes that this reproduction will be the means of proclaiming forever the glorious achievements, the undying fame of the Confederate soldiers, whose valor amazed the world and is the most glorious and cherished legend of the south."

Water of the Convention

Genesis of Great Seal of the Southern Confederacy

Point of View. Facts to be substantiated.

1. A provisional Seal - Impress to be seen on documents at the Congress.
2. An impromptu Seal, sketched from a piece of box wood, by a pen-knife, and executed very early in the war. No history nor trace of this Seal can be found.
3. A Seal was made by J. Baumgarten of Washington, D.C., and residing in Richmond, Va. soon after war began. I have an electrotype facsimile of this one ordered by J. P. Benjamin at Richmond, and it was completed early in 1862. When Mr. E. A. Tyler

✓ a prominent jeweller of New Orleans heard of the Seal, he immediately procured a copy, made a die and made electrotype facsimiles, then destroyed the first copy & die.

Many were sold in N.C., and many presented to prominent Confederates. Before Ben Butler took possession of our City, these seals were hidden to prevent trouble.

When Mr. Tyler sold out the Seals had been lost sight of, but, when Mr. ^{Trotter} Turney, Manager of the business discovered the Seals, (at the time the owner of the store was giving up business in 1909, he gave Mr. W. C. Hart of N.C. the opportunity to purchase them.

✓ The Seabridge crowd proclaim the Baumgarten seal as the one made by Lyon of England, that is, they insist it is the replica of

if, when New Orleans, they claim ³
is the electrolyte of the Wyon Seal.
Mr. B. insists he made this.
They say they have the original of it, with
Wyon's signature - (back mark C.)

How can these two statements tally?
If "Jim Jones" is lying, he is a
 colossal fraud! And that is the
only way Selfridge could get
the Wyon Seal, and even so, the
one they claim (which Baumgarten
made) was in evidence before the
Wyon one was ordered.

They have something; what is it?
Certainly not the original of this
one from N. O. La. made by
Mr. B. If Wyon's seal has
Southern agricultural products
surrounding Washington, then it
is a copy of one by Baumgarten,
& why should that be?

What is it that they hold? ⁴

Seal by Baumgarten, has date of
adoption Feb. 22 - 1862 in circle around
the horseman -

Picture of Wyon Seal (Silver)
on outside of "Scillilogia" has the
date of adoption, Feb. 22 - 1862.

just beneath horseman.
Baumgarten has it, so has Wyon's. B. model st
was a replica

What does Scillilogia signify?

Points to be ans. Before offering "Seal" -
Mr. Gaillard Hunt told me at my first
interview, relative to seal, that he had
seen the "Hyon name" on the seal in
Richmond, and that Jack would vitiate
Jimm's representation. "Why so? Would it?"

1. How did it happen (if it did) that
2 seals were made (alike)?
Why was B's not used, & was it,
such documents as were furnished
from J. P. Benjamin's papers?
Is not shown any documents &
B. seal - only the "Provisional".
Where is the trade mark "Hyon Seal &
" " " Seal itself at present?
To me it looks as if the B. seal
~~was~~ ^{is} being masqueraded as
"G. S. from England, which
James Jones says he concealed,
and, as the buried seal cannot
be unearthed, some Seal must
materialize to pose as the Hyon
specimen. From the description of
Hoy's firm, one would be
justified in concluding that the same

Pictures of Jones.

J. M. Mason -

Judah T. Benjamin

Beaumont

Jess. Davis (2 of 3)

Thos. J. Sumner - approved
seal - Apr. 30, 1865

Provincial Seal, & Davis Signature

Palmetto " Menninger's

Baumgarten's with Lyle's to

H. O. Harts cross to as to the
identity.

Photos - of all 3 seals & compare.

X BK - 1/2

2 Seals Antiques. Seals - one by B,
which C. G. Lyle of N.C. produced in
replica - the Nyon seal were
almost identical, but I have found a
difference.

Suppose the Nyon seal should turn
up! What then ~ ~ ~ ?

"Seal" by Baumgarten, has date
(Steel.)
of adoption - Feb. 22, 1862 in
circle around the hooded man
Picture of "Heron Seal" ^{silver}
outside of "Scillitogria" has the
date of adoption, Feb. 22, 1862
just beneath hooded man.
What does "Scillitogria" signify?
"

Joannes Didymus Archaeologus.
Firm Foley & Wyon, London, Eng.
made back seal 2. C. S. A. L.
Butler entered N. O. May 1, 1862

photo. copy of C. C. Tyler's replica
of original die of C. S. A.

This, by Tyler was produced by
a die he executed from the Baumgarten
production, and when N. O. La. was
threatened by Ben Butler, Mr. Tyler
destroyed his die, & hid what replicas
he had left. They were found
yrs. later when the store was sold
& overhauled for recasting. Replicas were bought
Mr. W. O. Hart, Atty' Gen'l at Law, N. O. La.

Photo - taken of the original
die, executed by Mr. J. Baumgarten
of Washington, D. C., and later
replicas taken of it by Mr. C. C. Tyler
of New Orleans, La. before May 1862
when he had destroyed his copy of die
so that further copies could not be
produced. Mr. Baumgarten presented me
his original die of the Seal in Wash. - D. C.

Congress Resolved in Spring 1863
to have a Seal made: This is described
in Harper's monthly Magazine Feb. 1869.
This Seal must have been the
Wagon Seal arriving about termination
of the war.

Mr. B's Seal, I find no record of it.
When was it used. They are now
presenting it to the public as the
Great Seal, and offering proofs,
(so called) authentic. ^{republic}
Describing it according to the B.
Seal in my possession.

I have seen a Seal impression on
documents, signed by Mr. Davis, but it
was not the B Seal; it was crude
looking. This was used early in the
conflict, and until end of war.

Its fate unknown. I saw impress of
Menninger's Dept. Seal - Palmetto.

Bo. Hart - "Pillar" p. 20.
above middle } 78th day - Dec. 17th 63
"The Conf. Cong. Sec. (aiming)
design for Seal" with motto:
"Deo Duce Vincimus".

Courbonlion - Boulettes
Fricassée - Gombo
File, (?) (Important)

N.B. These Replicas are not
copy of W's seal for they were
here & there, before W's seal
was made. W's seal I made - T.B.

And if W's seal was made
from 1 design page 20 "Pillar"
& motto Deo duce Vincimus - the 2
seals are not identical & they are
hence diff. in some particular
and while it would appear

Baumgartner Seal was designed
by him, confirmed Benjamin, & a
die of it, evidently made in 1861 - or
early in 1862. (for replicas) are
broadcast - Tyler in N.D. executed one
If the one made by W. was from
Pillar > 20 - Conf. Cong. Passer,
it must have been ^{with} the motto
"Deo Duce Vincimus" & be one
fin buried, and if the one Mr. B.
designed & says these replicas
are his, then how could Benj's
design & Conf. Cong. both be correct?
That's the question continue it

- 1/ Did Robert (D's ^{cousin} ~~brother~~) take the Davis children to Canada to Mrs. Davis' mother & R. American? How many children?
- 2/ Was Burton Harrison in Rest, Davis party - + Judge Montgomery - when they ~~reheated~~ fled to Richmond?
- 3/ Judge W. Says: "James T. left R. before the evacuation, with Mrs. D's maid + coachman. Is that so?"
- 4/ Did he bring "article" Monday am.? Early? Or Sat. What day did R. surrender?

Fay - Wyer

These 2 articles were attached
to the 2 page Confederate Veteran
letter of June 26, 1917
(Both written on one side only)

W. Says they never made a
"duplicate" of "Seal" yet
the "moth" bus. mine? -
There was time
enough for a replica to have
been produced + right -
would not seal + be brought
naturally keep together
Box # 2 ~~has~~ not been in A.D.G.
possession.

Recd of J. P. Benj. May
- 1863 sent 1000
for one - Hon. Gen.
Mason, C. S. Comm.
Gr. Britain -
It was completed in
July 1862 & sent ✓
Capt. Gort under
West Chapman,
C. S. Sch. Reaching
Britain in
Apr. 1863 - at 1 time
et al. in. occurred,
so no official
impression ever
taken - ✓
(Seal - U. S.
Lib. (C. Cog.)